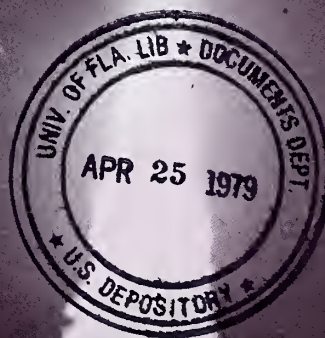


D301.81:29/4

OLYMPIC ARENA '79



Combat Crew

strategic air command

★★★★

APRIL 1979

Combat Crew

Magazine of the Strategic Air Command - 29th Year of Publication

GEN. RICHARD H. ELLIS
COMMANDER IN CHIEF, SAC

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. HALLORAN
Inspector General

COL. BURR V. MILLER, JR.
Director of Safety

STAFF

MAJ. STEPHEN J. MILLER
Editor

G. FRANCIS FARRELL
Associate Editor

SSgt. RICHARD L. WALDROOP
Art Editor

MARY JANE ABOUD
Editorial Assistant

IN THIS ISSUE

OLYMPIC ARENA '79	4
MINUTEMAN Competitors	6
OPS Update	10
TITAN Competitors	12
SAC Sweep	16
Photo View	22
Missile Mishaps	27
Professional Performers	28



ON OUR COVER

A salute to OLYMPIC ARENA '79 and to the many dedicated and professional missile competitors who are striving for a win!

CINCSAC COMMENTS ON . . .

Since the advent of nuclear weapons, no other single strategic weapon system has had a greater influence on the balance of world power than the ICBM. It is the most powerful retaliatory leg of the Triad in terms of SIOP targeting and represents the centerpiece of America's strategic deterrent force.

With the achievement of operational status by the 20th Minuteman Squadron in April 1967, the development of U.S. ICBMs was completed and the Strategic Air Command reached its full complement of 1,054 missiles. During that same month, SAC held the first missile crew competition — nicknamed *Curtain Raiser* — despite heavy commitments on the Command by the conflict in SEAsia. Why then, and why now, do we have these competitive events?

The reasons for OLYMPIC ARENA competitions are many but two deserve special comment. First, they help build team spirit and are a valuable learning experience. The long hours of practice and preparation needed to successfully compete in such an event add to the cohesiveness and high esprit de corps of our missile units. In addition, the entire Command benefits from the exchange of ideas and experience that takes place as each wing tries to build a winning team.

The second reason for this annual competition is to demonstrate to allies and foes alike the profes-

SACRP 127-1

VOL. XXIX NO. 4

April 1979

COMBAT CREW is an internal publication of the Strategic Air Command with the sole purpose of promoting safety. The contents of this magazine are informative and not to be considered as directive in nature. Facts, testimony and conclusions of all mishaps printed herein may not be construed as incrimination under Article 31 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. All names, dates and places used in conjunction with mishap stories are fictitious. Written permission must be obtained from Headquarters, Strategic Air Command, before any material may be reprinted by other than U.S. Air Force organizations. Use of funds for printing this publication has been approved by Hq. USAF, Distribution FX, controlled by IGFC. SAC units submit distribution requests through local PDO.

Subscriptions are available from: The Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price: \$14.00 per year domestic; \$17.50 if mailed to a foreign country; or \$1.20 single copy. Authority to publish this periodical automatically expires on 26 January 1980, unless its continuance is authorized by the approving authority prior to that date. Contributions are encouraged as well as comments and criticisms. Direct correspondence with the Editor is authorized. Address correspondence to Editor, COMBAT CREW, Hq SAC/IGFC, Offutt AFB, Ne. 68113.

The Challenge of Competition

sional training and skills of the men and women responsible for this awesome nuclear force. Although our potential adversaries grow stronger with each passing year, they will never match the dedication, initiative, and spirit of the people in SAC. No other team could maintain at such high alert rates so vast and complex a weapon system as our Minuteman and Titan force. Everyone involved in SAC's ICBM operation can take great pride in the knowledge that they are doing the most important job their country could ask of them — providing the readiness and responsiveness necessary for our nation's security — and they are doing it better than it has ever been done.

Those of you selected by your wings to compete in OLYMPIC ARENA 1979 represent the very best of the professional corps of missileers. As in last year's competition, evaluators will be thoroughly testing the skills and abilities of not only the launch crews and maintenance teams, but also Security Police, Civil Engineering, and Communications specialists. The excellence displayed by the competitors is reflective of the thousands of talented people they represent and the true capability of our overall ICBM force.

For the competitors, the challenge of competition awaits. I wish each of you good luck and the best performance possible. ★★★★★



General R. H. Ellis
Commander in Chief, SAC



Olympic

A COMMAND TRADITION



Everyone is a winner! Everyone who wears a missile badge can stand a little bit taller each year because of Olympic Arena. I don't make this statement lightly — I fully realize all the hard work and personal sacrifice that everyone puts out to support this missile competition. Believe me, it is worth the investment.

As I travel throughout the missile force, I am continuously impressed by our crews, maintenance, and support personnel. I see bright young dedicated people who manage an important part of our deterrent forces. As I talk to missileers, I sense an almost universal desire for recognition. I don't mean recognition in the egotistical sense, rather they advocate an appreciation for how important the ICBM is to our national defense posture.

I suggest to you that the annual missile competition is the single most valuable vehicle for recognizing the abilities of our missile systems and the magnificent people who man and maintain those systems.

ICBMs have come a long way since the days of Atlas and Titan I; and likewise, so has the missile competition. Since 1967, when the first competition was held at Vandenberg, Olympic Arena has become a Command tradition identified with excellence, and demonstrates the credibility of a

Arena '79

part of a powerful and dynamic deterrent force. Additionally, the competition renews public interest and awareness of the role ICBMs play in maintaining peace. Therefore, Olympic Arena is for everyone — and the tradition of excellence associated with the competition has been justly earned and is shared by all missile people.

A key point to remember is that the wing's total team effort will determine the top winner. The competition is tough and the overall results may hinge on the achievements of a single exercise. Last year only 27 points separated the Blanchard winner from the first runner-up. On several individual exercises, one or two points made the difference in determining the winner.

Each competitor knows this, and that the competition exercises require his or her best efforts. Regardless of who wins, each competitor can take pride in having been selected to be part of the wing team. This in itself is a noteworthy achievement since each competitor comes to Vandenberg and McConnell already a winner. Finally, I encourage you to be proud, aggressive and confident.

I urge you to go after the Blanchard trophy with both hands. Good luck as you compete to be the "Best of the Best."

Maj. Gen. Jack L. Watkins,
Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

MINUTEMAN COMPETITORS



Crew S-125, 91st SMW: Capt Terrence G. Crossey, MCCC and 1Lt Stephen G. Proctor, DMCCC.



Crew S-105, 91st SMW: 1Lt Dick Baay, MCCC, and 1Lt Donald R. Jozayt, DMCCC.

The 91st Strategic Missile Wing, Minot AFB, won their Blanchard Trophy last year for the first time and this year the 23-member team is going all out to accomplish what no other wing has been able to do — bring home the Blanchard two years in a row.

In 1978 in addition to the Blanchard, the wing also captured the Best Operations, Best Operations Crew, Best Electro-mechanical Team, Best Minuteman Security Police, and Best Minuteman Communications in SAC. Team members are out to repeat in all these areas, and more, some for the third year in a row.

Capt Terrence G. Crossey, Crew S-125 missile combat crew commander and his deputy, 1Lt Stephen G. Proctor will be competing in OA for the first time, but Lt Proctor participated in an operational test in August 1977.

Crew S-105 is headed by 1Lt Dick Baay, a member of the crew which took the Best Crew Award in 1978. He will be assisted by 1Lt Donald R. Jozayt, DMCCC. Lt Jozayt also participated in a simulated electronic launch-Minuteman test at Minot last October.

The two crews will be gunning to retain the title of Best Operations in SAC for the 91st. Supporting them in the competition are members of the 91st Field Missile Maintenance Squadron, 91st Organizational Missile Maintenance Squadron, 91st Civil Engineers Squadron, 5th Munitions Maintenance Squadron and 2150th Communications Squadron (Best Communications Squadron in SAC Communications Area for 1978).

The Power Electric Team is composed of A1C Donald G. Turriaga and A1C Douglas K. Smith, both new to OA this year.

The wing's Pneudraulics Team is made up of a 12-year veteran of the Air Force, team chief SSgt Robert A. Taylor and A1C Mark A. Tomlinson, a 16-month veteran. This year's competition will be their first.



Civil Engineers Team, 91st CES: A1C William C. Neary, team member, and SrA Michael K. Riley, team chief.

MINUTEMAN COMPETITORS ...



Pneudraulics Team, 91st SMW: SSgt Robert A. Taylor and A1C Mark A. Tomlinson, team chief and member, respectively, assigned to the 91st FMMS.

The five-member Missile Maintenance Team has a combined total of 19 years' experience with one member having participated in an operational test launch at Vandenberg in 1977. Heading the team is SSgt David A. Rochrig, a veteran of over nine years in the Air Force, all in SAC. Assisting him will be SSgt John E. Bolding; A1C Jeffrey D. Hill; A1C Michael C. Powell; and the only woman on the wing's team, A1C Jerilynn Ettell.

The three members of the 91st Missile Security Squadron are out to defend the Best Minuteman Security Police Team title won by the wing the last two years. Serving as the team's flight security controller this year is SSgt Donald O. Cliett. SrA Steven K. Huntington is the Armed Response Team leader and the third member of the team is A1C Paul A. Halvorsen.

Representing the wing from the 91st CES will be

SrA Michael K. Riley and A1C William C. Neary, both attending their first OA.

The Munitions Maintenance Team comes from the 5th Bombardment Wing's Munitions Maintenance Squadron. This year's team is headed by TSgt Eddie Hollows, Jr., a 17-year veteran of the Air Force. Assisting him will be SrA John C. Matthews and A1C Michael R. Mangum. Airman Matthews will be in OA for the first time but he has participated in one OT shot at Vandenberg in January 1978. Airman Mangum is the one member of the team with previous OA experience, having been a member of the winning 1978 team. He has also participated in two OT shots, one in January 1978 and again in June of the same year.

The final two members of the 91st SMW's team are members of the 2150th Communications Squadron. They are A1C Michael J. Piossa and A1C Wayne C. Sessa, both competing for the first time this year. They are out to defend the Best Minuteman Communications Team title won by the wing in 1978.



91st SMW Missile Maintenance Team. Front: SSgt John E. Bolding and A1C Jerilynn Ettell. Back: A1C Michael C. Powell, A1C Jeffrey D. Hill, and SSgt David A. Rochrig, team chief.

Whiteman Will Shine in '79 is a motto which represents the optimism and determination of the members of the 351st Strategic Missile Wing as they set out to win the coveted Blanchard Trophy at Olympic Arena and take it back home to Whiteman. They currently hold the distinction of being the only three-time winner of the competition. Their victories were in 1967, 1971 and 1977.

Lt Col Bob Ceruti, wing project officer, indicates that the 351st competitors were selected after extensive tryouts and challenges to insure that everyone was given a chance to compete and that only the best would represent Whiteman. The team accomplished a full scale training effort composed of many long and intensive hours to insure their readiness.

The 351st competitors recognize that a significant asset in their quest for the Trophy comes from the support of the people from Whiteman. In that regard, *TSgt Eucalyptus T. Stump*, Whiteman's celebrated mascot, is the catalyst in the base support and helps generate the enthusiasm that is going to stump all the other wings at OA '79.

"Whiteman's team is a group of highly determined, motivated and talented competitors," said Col Ceruti and we are going to put some scores on the board that will make for a real competition.

Major Gary Neighbors, operations project officer, stated that both operations crews possess two very important assets, youth and enthusiasm. "These young guys will be able to handle the competition and cope with the pressures." He said the teams were selected only after more than half of the crew force tried out. Operations, he added, is fortunate to have strong organizational support and a strong training program.

Capt Marty Klena, the training crew commander, is extremely optimistic about the competitive potential of operations crews: 1Lts Gerry McFarland and John Moore, and Capt Phil Loebach and his deputy Lt Steve Slate. Each individual's strengths have been carefully matched so that they complement their crew partner and together present a formidable team.

The Maintenance Team also plans to outshine all of their counterparts at OA '79; project officer Capt David Leighninger said, "This year, we have one of the strongest and most enthusiastic maintenance contingents ever fielded by the 351st SMW. With these people, we'll ride to the top."

The maintenance contingent will consist of four teams: the Missile Maintenance Team (MMT), will feature team chief Sgt Bill Skotta and his assistants Sergeants Erwin Babcock and Gary Morin, SrA Pat Brown and A1C Chris Brown; the Power Production and Electric Shop will field SSgt Gary Schoenthal and his partner Amn John Gilbert; in the Pneudraulics contingent will be SSgt Dave Ford

and his assistant SrA Ricky Geltz; and rounding out the maintenance team is a Munitions Crew composed of Sgt Tom Stackhouse, A1C Dan Baity and A1C John Wentland.

(Continued on Page 18)



351st Operations Crew Capt Phil Loebach and deputy 2Lt Steve Slate perform paper replacement for SAC Automated Command and Control System.

SSgt Brian G. Clever, holding rifle, and A1C Nicholas A. DeAnda handcuff "suspect" SSgt Robert L. Cox. All are members of the Security Police Team from the 351st SMW.





OPS—HQ SAC DCS/OPS UP-DATE—

MAJOR GENERAL JACK L. WATKINS

DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS — COL GEORGE P. TYNAN

SAC TANKERS MOVE F-15s TO SAUDI ARABIA. During January a number of tanker squadrons were notified of an immediate requirement to provide air refueling support for a squadron sized unit move of F-15s to Saudi Arabia. On very short notice, all participants were processed through personnel, finance, and shot lines and then deployed to Pease AFB, the initial tanker task force operating location. Within days a sizeable force of SAC ops, maintenance, and support personnel had moved forward to Lajes AB in the Azores on the first leg of the deployment. From there, elements of the tanker task force went on to Athens, Greece, and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Eighteen fighter aircraft were moved initially to Lajes and, of that group, 12 were scheduled for the final hop from Lajes into Saudi Arabia, with six of them going to Riyadh, the capital city, and the other six destined for Khamis Mushait, a military base near the Red Sea coast south of Jeddah. On the 23rd of January, after an extensive goodwill demonstration tour, the F-15s began their return to Langley AFB VA. Tanker support was provided from Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; Hellenikon AB, Greece; Zaragoza AB, Spain; and Lajes AB, Azores. The F-15s made enroute stops at Khartoum, Sudan; Torrejon AB, Spain; Kinetra AB, Morocco; and Montijo AB, Portugal. Overall, SAC tankers provided 53 refueling sorties for 168 F-15 refuelings — all without a hitch (**Major Edward T. Carvey, DOOK**)

BULLET BLITZ. The ninth SRAM live launch in the current series of BULLET BLITZ testing will be conducted on 24 Apr 79 by the 320 BMW, Mather AFB CA. Launched from a B-52, the missile will be programmed to fly a semiballistic profile to the target located on the White Sands Missile Range NM. The SRAM will be configured with an Operational Test Launch payload containing a beacon transponder to permit missile tracking by ground radar, a telemetry package for transmission of missile performance data, and a Command/Destruct capability for range safety purposes. (**Col Kenneth E. Crooks, DOOV**)

CERTAIN SENTINEL. On 29 and 30 Jan, four B-52Ds, one KC-135, aircrews, support personnel and required equipment from the 22 BMW, March AFB CA, departed sunny California for the cold and snow covered runways of Loring AFB ME. This small scale deployment to a CONUS forward operating base was in preparation for participation in U.S. Army VII Corps field training exercise, CERTAIN SENTINEL, conducted in the Central Region of Germany. On 31 Jan, three B-52Ds launched from Loring AFB on a 16½-hour mission. Approximately seven hours after takeoff, the bombers were conducting high altitude simulated conventional bombing attacks against targets in central Germany. The aircraft launched with targeting information to attack preplanned targets; however, while enroute, air target changes were provided to the airborne crews. This permitted the B-52s to respond expeditiously to target requests, thus providing the capability to attack time-sensitive targets. Two simulated conventional bombing attacks were accomplished in support of U.S. Army VII Corps. A small SAC planning team was positioned at ATOC Sembach, Germany to coordinate SAC's participation. The capability to attack time-sensitive targets added a new dimension to the employment of SAC strategic aircraft and provided realistic training for all exercise participants. After the simulated release, the aircraft returned to Loring AFB. A similar mission was flown on 2 Feb 79. Air refueling support for both missions was provided by KC-135s from Loring AFB and RAF Mildenhall. Participation in *Certain Sentinel* not only demonstrated the mobility capability of a SAC unit, but the missions flown in support of this exercise demonstrated that the B-52 continues to be a viable weapon system and can provide a unique and significant contribution to the conventional war effort in Europe. (**Lt Col Richard B. Morganti, DOOC**)

GIANT MATCH II. An evaluation of B-52/KC-135 Quick Start capability was conducted at Wurtsmith AFB MI, from 31 Jan through 2 Feb 79. Three B-52G and three KC-135 aircrews participated in the exercise. GIANT MATCH II was conducted to evaluate procedures which could reduce alert force response timing. In addition to Quick Start, roll-over aircraft chocks and ground crew/aircrew procedures were studied. (**Lt Col Richard J. Studinka, DOOV**)

BUSY LUGGAGE. The 7 BMW will conduct a *Busy Luggage* flight test mission on 18 Apr 79. During the mission, the second of six missions planned for the CY 79 program, two inert test weapons will be released from high altitude on the Tonopah Test Range, Nevada. Additionally, two parachute test units will be released from low altitude in support of the retardation-device test program. **BUSY LUGGAGE**, the exercise term for SAC participation in the Air Force/Department of Energy (DOE) Joint Flight Test Program, is designed to verify the capability of SAC's weapon systems to function in a variety of stockpile-to-target environments. Tests also verify the continuing compatibility between DOE and DOD subsystems. **(Col Kenneth E. Crooks, DOOV)**

DIRECTORATE OF WEATHER — COL ALFRED C. MOLLA, JR.

COMPUTER FLIGHT PLANS. Hey Nav — Did you know that your CMF contains a CFP, but does not contain a SAC Form 200? Are you familiar with using Computer Flight Plans? The adage "Practice in peacetime what you will do in wartime" is valid guidance. If you do not feel comfortable when you review your EWO CFP, maybe you should be using CFPs more frequently on daily training missions, ORIs, etc. Think about it! **(Major Ron Haynes, DOWX)**

DIRECTORATE OF TRAINING — COL JOHN J. DORAN, JR.

AIR REFUELING PART TASK TRAINERS. The KC-135 Boom Operator Part Task Trainer (BOPTT) completes Initial Operational Test and Evaluation (IOT&E) 31 Mar 79, at Castle AFB CA. Training of boom operators is to begin 1 Apr 79. The BOPTT provides simulation of the air refueling environment for new boom operators. Through its visual display, the BOPTT provides refueling training capability with B-52, C-5, F-4, and F-111 aircraft in a ground based environment. Test results have shown increased training capabilities in communications procedures as well as air refueling procedures. The B-52 Air Refueling Part Task Trainer (ARPTT) begins IOT&E 1 Apr 79. The ARPTT provides air refueling training for B-52 pilots. Utilizing a six-degree-of-freedom motion system and a camera model visual system, the ARPTT will allow ground based refueling training for pilots with the KC-135. Incorporated into the device are both normal and emergency refueling procedures training. Completion of IOT&E for the ARPTT is projected for Jan 80. **(Capt Ronald R. Handley, DOTP)**

FIRST TEAM. The FIRST TEAM program provides officer combat crew members an opportunity to visit SAC Headquarters for three days of briefings and discussions with the SAC staff. Six programs, each consisting of 45 officers, have been approved for 1979. The schedule has been designed so that each CONUS aircraft and missile unit will participate in one program during the year. NAF project officers will inform units selected to participate in one program during the year. NAF project officers will inform units selected to participate approximately one month prior to the visit dates. Questions concerning the program may be directed to the SAC project officer. **(Captain Dan Phillips, DOTN)**

COMMANDERS/STAFF PERSONNEL ALERT DUTY. Recent changes to SACR 55-43, "Alert Procedures," and SACR 55-66, Vol I, "ICBM Operations," permit wing, squadron and sector commanders, operations officers, and other qualified staff personnel to perform alert duty. These personnel must be current and qualified in the weapon system, and must be certified EWO capable before pulling alert. **(Lt Col Douglas W. Jamieson, DOTF)**

1 CEVG NO-NOTICE EVALUATIONS. The 1 CEVG no-notice evaluation interval between unit visits will average about 12 months. A recent change has increased the maximum interval between visits to 18 months. This will reduce the number of overall evaluations previously experienced by aircrew members. **(Lt Col Ralph J. Swanson, DOTT)**

"WHO'S GOT THE MULLIGAN?" A recent innovation designed to enhance aircrew training is the "Mulligan Sortie." A primary objective of this "crew-developed" sortie is to encourage crew initiative in refining new ideas and procedures . . . without the stigma of failure. To insure that maximum benefits are derived, the "Mulligan" is not subject to evaluation. No additional personnel will be added to the flight unless the crew specifically requests instructional assistance. **(Lt Col Dick Runkle, DOTTA)**

ONE FINAL NOTE

From the favorable comments I have received, I believe UP DATE is meeting its objective of keeping you, the crewmember, informed. We plan to cram all we can into the available space. If you want more information about a particular item, please contact the office of origin. — **Jack Watkins**

TITAN COMPETITORS

By virtue of their unit's number, the 390th SMW may usually be last on the billing, but not in this year's competition. This year, they plan to be at the top of everyone's list in the 12th Strategic Air Command missile comp.

The *Roadrunners* have trained long and hard for this one, and the 390th will be hard to beat. Their operational readiness inspection in January proved that teamwork and professionalism are among the best in SAC. And so it is with their individual competitors. The Security Police and Civil Engineering Teams joining the 390th operations crews and maintenance teams are from the 355th Combat Support Group, Tactical Air Command. Comprising the 390th Communications Team are members of the Air Force Communications Service. The D-M contingent is a team which has spent many hours acquiring the expertise and stamina necessary to win at Olympic Arena.

The operations side of the 390th SMW will field two missile combat crews in this year's competition: Crew S-001 commanded by 1Lt Warren D. Harkins, a former OA competitor. His DMCCC is 1Lt Mike Berrian. SSgt Daniel Kitchens is the MSAT, also a former competitor, and the BMFT is A1C Loren Newkirk. 1Lt Carlos O. Cherry will lead the other half of the Operations Team, Crew S-100. The



Crew S-100, 390th SMW: 1Lt Carlos O. Cherry, MCCC; 1Lt Michael K. Kelly, DMCCC; MSgt Beryle M. Farmer, MSAT; and SSgt Bruce E. Cook, BMFT.

Mr. Benjamin G. Espinoza and SrA Robert T. Endsley, Jr., 390th SMW CE Team.



Davis-Monthan Munitions Team: SrA Ronald E. Fisher, SSgt Davis L. Benson, team chief; and SrA Joel Byko.



COMBAT CREW

DMCCC is 1Lt Michael K. Kelly. MSgt Beryle M. Farmer, the MSAT, and SSgt Bruce E. Cook, the BMFT and a competition veteran, round out this winning team.

Maintenance Teams for the 390th SMW are a mixed force of former competitors and first timers all of which are preparing to bring home some silver. Returning for another crack at the title of number one are the *Missile Handlers*, SSgt Thomas P. Stapler and Sgt Earl L. Jarrett. Both Propulsion Team members are also former competitors. They are SSgt Michael J. Przybyski and SSgt Joseph L. Hollon. Our Facilities Team is made up of two first timers, SrA Kenneth L. Dalka and SrA Robert F. Couchon. Last year's "Best Titan Munitions Team in SAC" is returning again this year with SSgt David L. Benson, SrA Joel Byko and SrA Ronald E. Fisher.

Tactical Air Command's 355th CSG Security Police Team is out to return to D-M as "Top Cops in SAC" with SSgt Wayne Lee Thompson as the comm plotter. The team leader, Sgt Michael (Ice) Icenogle, is teamed up with AIC Dale F. Gadd, a competition "rookie."

Another 355th CSG team with hopes of coming out on top are the Civil Engineers. Mr. Benjamin G. Espinoza and SrA Robert T. Endsley, Jr. comprise the CE Refrigeration Team.

The 390th SMW Communications Team is busy checking for buzzes in our Radio type maintenance nets. SrA Eva M. Lehrman, our only female competitor this year, and SrA Timothy M. Steinbacher will be responsible for checkout and repair of this life-saving communications system.

"The Best of the Best." This is what we're aiming for," reports a D-M spokesman "and with so many talented young performers, we will be tough to beat. Remember, The Force is out to getcha!"

Comm Team from the 390th SMW: SrA Eva M. Lehrman and SrA Timothy M. Steinbacher.



Alarm Response Team from the 381st SMW: SrA Stephen A. Benner, ART member, SSgt Phillip W. Selman, controller/plotter; and Sgt Stephen A. Eskina, ART leader check out 2Lt Rebecca Madison during a training practice.

Competitors from McConnell, 381st Strategic Missile Wing have completed a long and demanding training schedule to prepare for one goal — winning the Blanchard Trophy in 1979.

The 381st is the only Titan wing in the history of Olympic Arena to win the Blanchard twice. McConnell's teams are confident this will be the year of the TITAN.

In past years McConnell's teams have brought home such honors as Top Titan Wing, Best Titan Crew, Best Titan Electronics Team, Best Missile Maintenance Team, Best Titan Communications Team, and Best Titan Security Team. They have also been honored with the Air Force Logistics Command Titan Logistics Trophy.

Combat crews from McConnell have completed extensive practice sessions in order to win the best operations award during Olympic Arena 79. To qualify for competition this year, each crewmember had to finish number one or two in his area contests conducted in the missile procedures trainer.

McConnell's Operations Team consists of two combat competitive crews and one combat training crew. Competitive crew S-034 is composed of Capt John J. Fraser, MCCC; 1Lt William C. Christmas, DMCCC; TSgt Delman B. Colford, BMAT; and Sgt Gary M. Hansen, MFT. Crew S-202 includes Capt Terry G. Cook, MCCC; 1Lt Ronald S. Hadden, DMCCC; SSgt Timothy W. Brown, BMAT; and Sgt Albert J. Abbondanza, MFT.

The backbone of the team is the training crew. Diligent efforts and hours of work preparing the two competitive crews toward the ultimate victory are the keys to success of the McConnell team. The training team is commanded by Capt David J. Runt, MCCC; 1Lt John F. Owens, DMCCC; Sgt Michael F. Gremillion, BMAT; and Sgt Daniel M. Hainline, MFT.



Facilities Team chief, SSgt William I. Sephus, left, and team member A1C Antonio Sanchez of McConnell's 381st Missile Maintenance Squadron.

This year McConnell Security Police Olympic Arena Team will be working to regain the title of Best Titan Security Police Team and best in Strategic Air Command. McConnell's team also won the trophy in 1975 when security police teams were first added to the competition. Members of this year's streamlined Security Police Team are SSgt Phillip W. Selman, communications/plotter; Sgt Stephen A. Eskina, alarm response team (ART) leader; and SrA Stephen A. Benner, ART member. The teams alternate member is A1C Robert T. Parker.

The security team will perform a daytime security exercise on a launch complex that will test reactions to practical situations. A total of 200 points will be the goal for the Security Police Team. It is divided between the practical exercise and weapons proficiency with the M-16 rifle. According to 2Lt Thelbert D. Morgan, Security Police project officer.

This year, McConnell's 2155th Communications Squadron will send two of its members to compete for the trophy: SSgt Robert L. Ammerman and SrA Thomas K. Miller of the Radio Type Maintenance Network (RTMN) shop.

Prior to the competition they will train to sharpen their skills in bench checking, trouble-shooting and repair and alignment of the RTMN transceiver used with the Titan II weapon system. Commander of the 2155th Communications Squadron, Lt Col George K. Loud, stated, "Olympic Arena competition for communications squadrons' contenders is definitely one of the high points each year. First, we represent the Air Force Communications Service as the only other major command in a basically SAC competition. Second, we have a tradition of winning to uphold, having produced winning teams in the two years that communications has competed."

Another major component in this year's Olympic Arena competition is the 381st Civil Engineering Squadron. This will be the fourth year that Civil

Engineering has fielded contestants and the first year the Refrigeration Shop will compete.

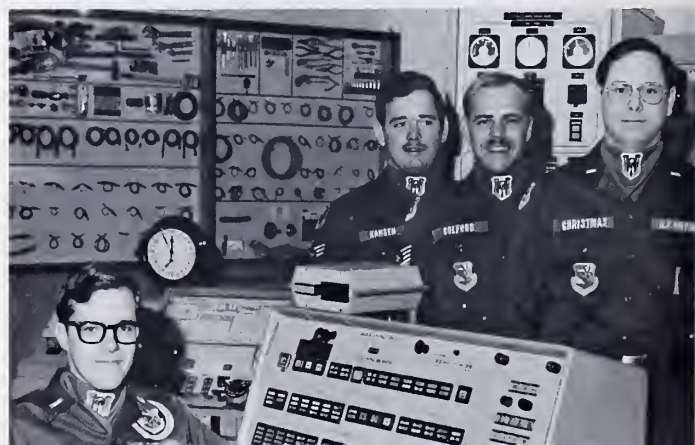
Two refrigeration technicians have been selected to represent the 381st. They are A1C Roger D. Wilson and Robert Ragsdale, WG-10. This year's alternate is SrA Eugene R. Row. The competition will be based on taking micrometer readings on the "TRANE" freon compressor crankshaft. A possible 200 points can be won through accuracy and timeliness in performing the duties.

As always, the largest segment of Olympic Arena is the maintenance competition. Nine highly qualified technicians and four alternates have been chosen to compete at Vandenberg AFB and at McConnell this year. The maintenance competitors are divided into four different teams — Munitions, Missile Maintenance, Facilities, and Propulsion teams.



Performing leak and functional checks of the Titan's stage I engine is part of the task A1C Carl J. Bracher, and Sgt Victor Gali, Jr., of McConnell's MMS.

Olympic Arena '79 Crew S-034 from the 381st SMW: 1Lt John J. Fraser, MCCC; Sgt Gary M. Hansen, MFT; TSgt Delman B. Colford, BMAT; and 1Lt William C. Christmas, DMCCC.



Members of the Titan II Munitions team are SSgt Richard R. Ferguson, A1C Christopher L. Burns, and SrA Howard E. Ransom. They will perform a limited life component change on the Titan re-entry vehicle. This portion of the maintenance competition will be held at Vandenberg. All other maintenance competition is held at McConnell.

SSgt James E. Adams and Sgt William V. Pierson make up the Missile Maintenance Team. Their portion of the exercise will be to unlock, service, and repair the missile thrust mount system, this will be performed at McConnell.

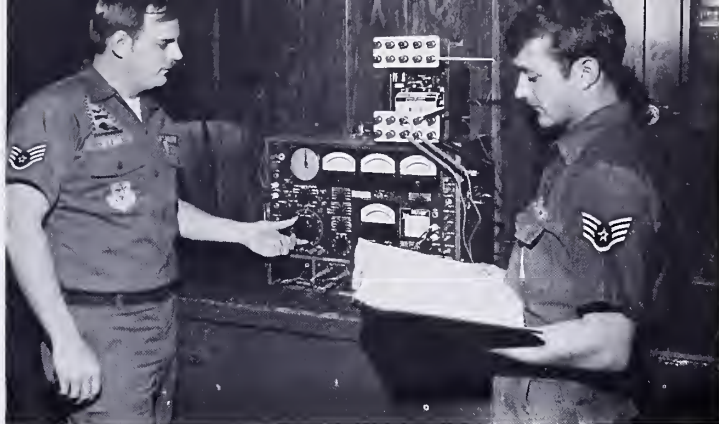
The Facilities Team for this year's competition is made up of SSgt William I. Sephus and A1C Antonio Sanchez. Their tasks, which will also be accomplished at McConnell, are to perform phase sequence and undervoltage relay (DEVICE 47) adjustments using the SR-51 multiamp unit.

The Propulsion Team consists of Sgt Victor Gali, Jr., and A1C Carl J. Bracher. The Propulsion Team will perform leak and functional checks on the Stage I engine. The overall goal for McConnell is to bring home the Blanchard Trophy for an unprecedented third time.

Year Of The Titan. Of course, the Titan is the Titan II missile weapon system of the 308th SMW. This motto was adopted as the representative symbol for competitors as the 308th prepared for Olympic Arena. Missile combat crews, maintenance teams, security police, communications, and civil engineer competitors intend to bring home the Blanchard Trophy. Competitors are primed and ready after the wing's outstanding performance during the recent 3901st Strategic Missile Evaluation Squadron visit and wing ORI. The members of the 308th know they are the best in the Titan II system, and they are ready to outpoint the Minuteman competitors too. The two operations combat crews worked for perfection during their training in the missile procedures trainer. The maintenance and communications teams and security police also practice for the competition.

This year, there are two non SAC units supporting the 308th. The 314th Civil Engineering Squadron from MAC and the 2151st Communications Squadron from AFCS. The 314th Civil Engineering Squadron's representatives have done well in the competition the past several years, winning their portion of the competition in 1976, the first year they competed. They hope to win first place in 1979. The 2151st Radio Type Maintenance Team intends to win the contest in their field.

The 308th has several members who are repeat performers in the competition. Sgt David L. Dillard, Propulsion Team; SSgt Robert J. Carr, Facility Team; SrA William E. Coley, Civil Engineering Team; all are in the maintenance area.



308th MIMS Olympic Arena Facility Team: SSgt Gerald A. Nybo and SSgt Robert J. Carr train for the competition.

The Security Police has two repeat performers: SSgt Jimmy E. Roberts and Sgt Harry T. Bamburg. Additionally, the operations crews have the expertise of Capt Thomas Stavropoulos, who was on the operations training crew last year. All are experienced performers and give depth to the 308th Olympic Arena effort this year.

The 308th Strategic Missile Wing's experienced and highly competent teams are nearing their goal of perfection. Watch out — this is the **Year of the Titan**.



308th Security Police: Comm/Plotter SSgt Jimmy E. Roberts maintains constant communication with the Alarm Response Team during Olympic Arena training.

Missile Combat Crew E-065, 308 SMW: Commander, Capt Thomas Maxwell; Deputy Commander, 1Lt Thomas Cos; Missile Systems Analyst Technician, Sgt Kirk Goins; and Missile Facility Technician SrA Andy Tondreau.



Sac Sweeps

SAFETY AWARDS

Recently, SAC was named the recipient of two of the top USAF Safety Awards for 1978. On February 9, General Richard H. Ellis, commander in chief, SAC, received the Secretary of the Air Force Safety Award. This is the highest award in the Air Force Safety Awards Program and is presented to the MAJCOM that has the most effective safety program in all safety functional areas.

SAC will also be the recipient of the Major General Benjamin D. Foulis Memorial Award for 1978. This award is presented by the Order of Daedalians, a fraternity of military pilots, to the MAJCOM with the most effective flight safety program. The award ceremony will be on June 16, at the Order's annual convention in Dayton, Ohio.

Upon receiving notification that SAC would receive both of these awards, General Ellis stated, "The command's selection for these awards is a reflection of the supervision and discipline practiced by all members of the command and their adherence to established standards. To every member of this command — the combat crews, the maintenance and support personnel, staff agency people and all levels of supervisors and commanders — I extend my congratulations and challenge you to make 1979 an even safer year."

Brig Gen Patrick J. Halloran, SAC Inspector General, praised the overall safety efforts saying, "I am proud of the contributions that everyone in the command has made toward the overall safety program. I have the opportunity as the SAC Inspector General to personally observe each unit's safety endeavors. I am encouraged by the reports I receive from my inspectors in regard to safety. Whether it is on the flightline, at the missile silo, in the engine shops, or in the transportation squadron areas, or



ARDS



Gen Richard H. Ellis, commander in chief, SAC, accepts the Secretary of the Air Force Safety Award from Under Secretary of the Air Force Hans M. Mark during ceremonies at Homestead AFB. Left, the Major General Benjamin D. Foulois Memorial Award Trophy.

anywhere on the base, my inspectors report that, in most cases, everyone has a genuine concern for safety. The awarding of the Secretary of the Air Force Safety Award to SAC for the first time since its inception in 1967 is a real tribute to the efforts of everyone in SAC, and it is a direct reflection of the supervision and discipline exhibited by all members of the command and their adherence to established standards. Winning the Maj Gen Benjamin D. Foulois Memorial Award is an additional plum for the people associated with flying and flying safety programs. They can be doubly proud of their efforts throughout 1978."

SAC is involved in many varied programs to enhance its posture in national defense and safety plays a dominant role in each endeavor. **Director of Safety, SAC, Col Burr V. Miller, Jr.,** stated "The achievements that led to the selection for these awards are a testimony to the high standards of professional discipline and supervision that are exemplified throughout the command on a daily basis. We have proved the SAC way is the professional and safe way. Let's not compromise these standards."

In expressing his pleasure about SAC winning the General Foulois Memorial Award, Maj Joseph E. Hamblin, SAC Chief of Flying Safety Division, stated "SAC's 1978 Class A flying safety rate was the lowest in the history of the command. The loss of a SAC B-52D at March AFB was the sole Class A mishap reported during the year. The year-end rate was 0.27, based on mishaps per 100,000 flying hours. The command amassed over 360,000 hours of flying time during the 1978 calendar year.

"The Major General Benjamin D. Foulois Memorial Award which will be presented to SAC this year is an honor won through the efforts of every person in SAC who is involved in any way with flying. Without the total support of everyone — from the individual units to SAC Headquarters — we could not have accomplished this outstanding 1978 rate."

The General Foulois Memorial Award was first given in 1938 as the Daedalian Flight Safety Award to the 19th Bombardment Group. In 1969, the name was changed in memory of General Foulois. SAC retained the award for the following years: 1951, 1952, 1959, 1964, 1970 and 1973.

MINUTEMAN COMPETITORS ...

(Continued from Page 9)

SSgt James L. Henry and SSgt Thomas A. Loggins, Whiteman AFB Communications Team, check for electrical continuity on hardened intersite cable system.



Conducting a remote weather command checklist are 351st SMW Operations Crew 1Lt Gerry McFarlane, standing, and his deputy 1Lt John Moore.

Sgt Thomas D. Stackhouse, left, A1C Dan Baity, center, and A1C John D. Wentland check out electrical test set. They are members of the Munitions Team from Whiteman AFB.



SrA Patrick B. Brown, left, Sgt William F. Skotta, Jr., Sgt Erwin Babcock, A1C Christopher D. Brown and Sgt Gary Morin adjust hoist for lowering equipment. They are members of the Missile Maintenance Team from the 351st SMW.

While Operations and Maintenance worked hard to produce first rate teams, the Communications Team will also be prepared to put forth its best when evaluated on the maintenance of the hardened intersite cable system. Major Ronald Rhodes, the communications project officer carefully honed the skills of his competitors so they will contribute maximum points to the Whiteman effort. Representing communications will be SSgt Tom Loggins and SSgt James L. Henry, both highly skilled technicians according to Major Rhodes.

Representing the Best Security Police Group in SAC at OA will be the team of Staff Sergeants Bob Cox and Brian Clever, and A1C Nick DeAnda. "We are very proud of our most recent accolade and we are working hard toward adding to it the Best Security Police Team at OA," said Lt Jonnie Wood, Security Police trainer. Our team has a wealth of talent to back up its expectations — competition experience, marksmanship skill and a keen desire to be the very best.

Finally, our Civilian Engineering Team, which consists of SrA Marv Winger and SrA Dave Bartlett was trained by MSgt Del DeBoe who won in the 1977 competition. Lt Jim Johnson, the CE project officer, knows he has a hard to beat combination and plans to uphold the proud tradition of the 351st.

The 341st Strategic Missile Wing, Malmstrom AFB, reports — hard work, dedication and support paid off for the Pittsburgh Steelers in this year's Super Bowl contest. Without them you can't hope to be a winner. A force of 23 dedicated people from the 341st are prepared to provide that hard work and dedication, and with the support they have from Malmstrom, they will be winners — in SAC's "Super Bowl" for missile wings.

"Our team this year is young and dedicated," said Lt. Col Clark W. Ward, Olympic Arena project officer. "They're truly professionals. They know they're the best and intend to make that fact known at this year's competition."

"More people tried out this year than in any year in recent memory," said Col Dennis M. Heitkamp, 341st SMW deputy commander for operations. "Because of this keen competition, our Operations Teams will be strong."

Launch officers on this year's team include 1Lt Ty Lagerberg, 1Lt Mark Smith, 1Lt Tom Romeyn and 1Lt Mike Fricano. Alternates are Capt Kirk Washington, 1Lt Paul Tisdale, Capt Rod Nuss and 2Lt Tod Bodenhamer.

The 341st SMW Deputy Commander for Maintenance, Col Charles W. Geer said, "We have the team to recapture the Best Maintenance Award we won in 1976 and 1977. We're ready, willing and able to help the wing bring back the big silver — the Blanchard Trophy."

This year's Missile Maintenance Team will be comprised of SSgt Jerry Gupton, SrA Timothy Carlson, SrA William Shealy, A1C Shelby Rogers and A1C Ralph Beard.

Sgt Robert Thomas, SrA Dennis Sanford and Amn Terrance Haub comprise the Munitions Team. The Electric Shop Team will include TSgt James Scheiber and A1C Richard Scott. Finishing out the maintenance team will be the Pneudraulics Team of A1C Dale McDonald and A1C Joseph Thornell.

"We established a winning tradition not long ago at the SAC and Air Force shooting matches," said Col Michael A. Altieri, 341st Security Police Group commander. "We fully intend to carry that winning record over into this year's missile competition." Members of the team shooting for the Best Security Police Team are SSgt Bernard O'Keefe, A1C Steven Schoenfelder and A1C Paul Ransom. The alternate for this year's team is A1C Jodie Grimes.

Regarding the Civil Engineering team, Col Duane Knutson, 341st CES commander indicated everyone eligible for the team tried out. "It goes without saying that this is the type of enthusiasm, interest and attitude indicative of a winner. There's no doubt that the people on the CE team are winners." The Civil Engineering Team includes SrA



341st SMW Missile Maintenance Team members A1C Ralph Beard, SrA William Shealy, SrA Timothy Carlson, A1C Shelby Rogers and SSgt Jerry Gupton.

341st Strategic Missile Wing Electrical Team members A1C Richard Scott and TSgt James Schreiber.



341st Strategic Missile Wing flight security controller SSgt Bernard O'Keefe.



Thomas Nulty, AIC Howard Massingill and AIC Kory Kennedy.

The 2153d Communications Squadron Commander, Maj. William L. Morrison II was really excited about the internal competition which went into the selection of their team. "I have every confidence in our competitors. We are prepared. We will win." This year's team includes AIC Daniel Briney and AIC Darrell Johnson.

Commenting about Malmstrom's team, Col Allen K. Rachel, 341st SMW commander said, "We're fielding one of the best Olympic Arena teams in Malmstrom's history. They're young, highly motivated professionals. Their high morale, coupled with the high degree of support from all units on base, shows they're ready to meet and conquer any challenge. They're ready to show all competitors at Olympic Arena that the 341st SMW really is the best."



Missile Maintenance Team from Grand Forks AFB: SSgt Arthur W. Hoff (standing) and (L-R) Sgt Billy W. Plumlee, SrA Mark T. Highland, Sgt Alan J. Santiago and SSgt Richard A. Brownell.



321 SMW Operations Crew S-226: 1Lt Michael G. Borders and 1Lt Ronald J. Haeckel.

Grand Forks Operations Crew S-172: 1Lt John B. Sims III and 2Lt Raymond D. Michael.



In Grand Forks there is no doubt that its the 321st SMW's year to bring home the Blanchard Trophy.

"We brought the gold back in '69 and again five years later in '74," reports one old 321st SMW sage. "Now, this year's team has developed into a unified, spirited base team. We can't help but win. We've got technical expertise, prior experience and enthusiasm all going for us."

Leading the operations crew will be 1Lt Michael G. Borders, returning for the third time, and 1Lt Ronald J. Haeckel, missile combat crew commander and deputy MCCC, respectively, of Crew S-226 and 1Lt John B. Sims III, going for the second time, MCCC and 2Lt Raymond D. Michael, DMCCC of Crew S-172.

Missile maintenance will have SSgt Arthur W. Hoff as its team chief. Team members are SSgt Richard A. Brownell, bringing his prior Olympic Arena experience, Sgt Billy W. Plumlee, Sgt Alan J. Santiago, and SrA Mark T. Highland.

Pneudraulics joins the Olympic Arena competition this year. TSgt Bobby L. Burge will be the team chief assisted by team member AIC Kevin W. Biscoe.

The Electric Team will be headed up by SSgt Carl E. Beckelheimer, who competed in the 1978 Olympic Arena competition. He will be assisted by AIC George E. Womack.

The 319th Bombardment Wing will be represented by its munitions maintenance squadron's Munitions Team. Team Chief will be TSgt Kenneth R. Hall, a first place team member in 1977 and also a 1978 competitor. This year his team includes SSgt Phillip L. Watts and A1C Scott J. Cogley.

The 2152d Communications Squadron's Cable Maintenance Team from the Air Force Communications Service, will debut with SSgt Thomas E. Paquin and Thomas R. Kerr as team members.

Flight security controller for the base's Security Police Team will be SSgt Charles H. Coles, a 1978 competitor, along with A1C Richard M. Trull, Alert Response Team leader and A1C David J. Colpoys, ART member.

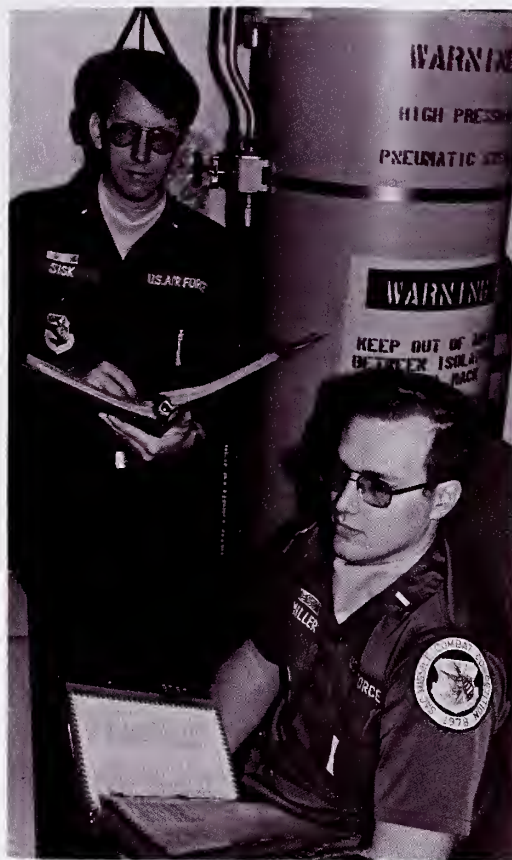
An Environmental Support Team will field A1C Alan B. Cox as team chief and A1C Jeffery J. Taylor, team member.

The Grand Forks team, sporting the 321st SMW orange scarves, will indeed make it a team effort, giving their best effort, making it a base effort to win. In the words of Col Kenneth L. Holden, 321st SMW commander, "With the entire base working as a team, we can't help but win."

People at the 90th SMW are ready — for Olympic Arena and ready to bring home the Blanchard! Winning awards and trophies has become second nature to the 90th this year, having received high marks on their recent 3901st SMES inspection and the John R. McNeil Memorial Trophy for the best missile maintenance in 15th Air Force. The 23 members of the OA 79 team are now concentrating all their energies toward adding just one more trophy to the wing trophy case — the coveted Blanchard.

This year's operations crews say they're serious about training for and winning the competition. "In fact, we expect to surprise a few people," says 1Lt William "Drew" Boyd, DMCCC of Crew S-190. He and MCCC 1Lt Thomas C. Owskey are experienced standboard members. Crew S-054 is also a strong contender. 1Lt Albert E. Sisk is the MCCC. DMCCC 1Lt Michael M. Miller was an alternate in OA 78, and between them they have two test launches under their belts.

The 90th's best in communications, SSgt Frank R. Sullivan and A1C Scott F. Swanson, were picked for the OA 79 team after extremely demanding performance tests given to 20 volunteers. Both these cable maintenance/installation specialists are new to OA but highly experienced in their jobs. They are confident that their study periods and practice sessions will pay off in a share of the Blanchard this year.



MCCC 1Lt Albert E. Sisk and DMCCC 1Lt Michael M. Miller, a primary competition team for the 90th SMW, concentrate on status indications at the commander's console of a missile procedures trainer.

Making up the Civil Engineering Team for the 90th are two men whose performance during the recent 3901st inspection yielded both of them HQs. They are team chief A1C Robert W. Merritt and team member A1C Barry K. Green. With these qualifications and the additional laurel of Airman Green's being named a professional performer by the same inspection team, this OA team is certain that they have what it takes to win.

Professionalism and challenge are the two words used by each member of the 90th's Security Police Team to describe their reasons for competing. FSC SSgt Ronald Lignon, ART leader SrA Richard W. Burton, and ART member A1C Daniel T. Sparks have been chosen as the best of the hundreds of missile security police at the base to compete at Vandenberg. With extra study sessions and a daily workout at the gym, this team is developing every bit of potential among them for the skills and confidence they'll display at OA.



91st Strategic Missile Wing, Power Electric Team: A1C Douglas K. Smith, 91st FMMS team member and A1C Donald G. Turriaga, 91st FMMS team chief.



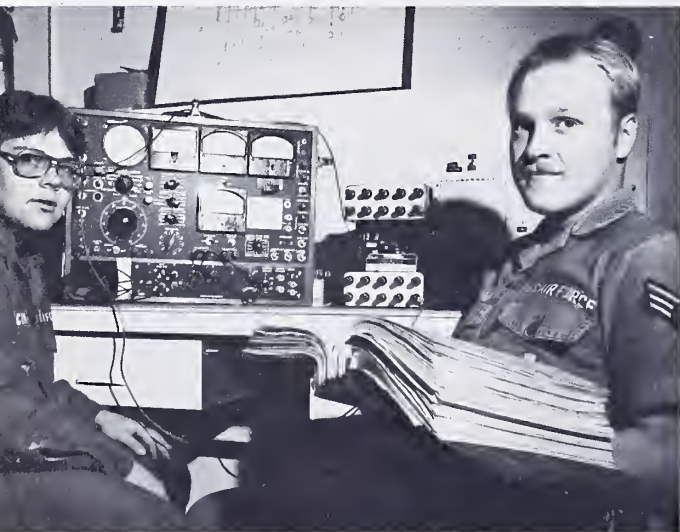
321 SMW Security Police Team: (L-R) A1C Richard M. Trull, SSgt Charles H. Coles, and A1C David J. Colpoys.

OLYMPIC ARENA '79

PHOTO VIEW



381st MMS Munitions Team: SSgt Richard R. Ferguson, SrA Howard E. Ransom, and A1C Christopher L. Burns practice their portion of the Olympic Arena exercise.



390th SMW Facilities Team: SrA Robert F. Couchon and SrA Kenneth L. Dalka.



A1C Robert W. Merritt, team chief of the primary Environmental Support Team of the 90th SMW, and SrA William J. Smigaj, team chief of the alternate team scrutinize electro-dialysis stacks for defects. Alternates must train as vigorously as the primary teams in case they are needed.

390th SMW Crew S-001: 1Lt Warren D. Harkins, MCCC; 1Lt Mike Berrian, DMCCC; SSgt Daniel E. Kitchens, MSAT; and A1C Loren G. Newkirk, BMFT.

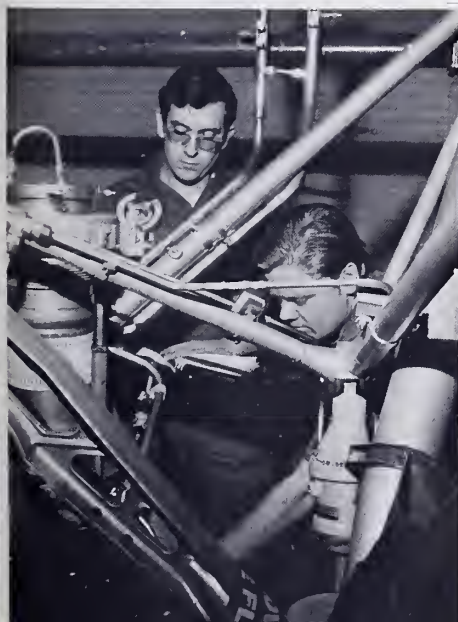


Black Hills Bandits Crew E-162: 1Lt Stephen Schleif, DMCCC, and 1Lt Francis Riley, MCCC. Lt Riley's previous Olympic Arena experience should prove valuable to the Bandits' Combat Operations Team.



Security Police Team, 91st Missile Security Squadron. Left-right: A1C Paul Halvorsen, ARTM; SSgt Donald D. Cliett, FSC; SSgt Randall C. Dionne, alternate FSC; Sgt Dennis H. Farris, alternate ARTL/M; and SrA Steven K. Huntington, ARTL.

308th MIMS Olympic Arena Propulsion Team: Sgt David L. Dillard and SSgt William S. Czepiel work on Titan II stage I engines.

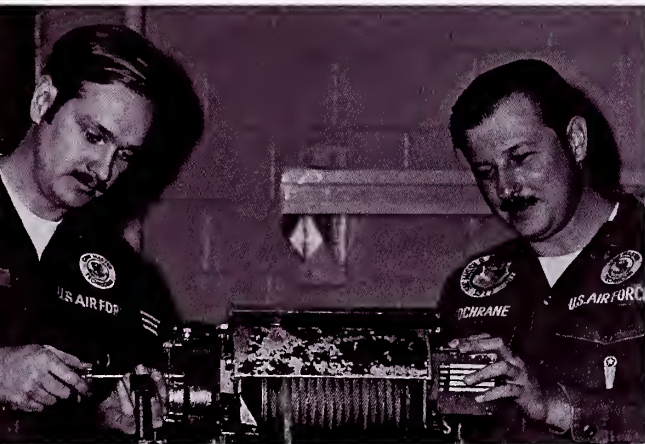


341st Strategic Missile Wing Alert Response Team members A1C Steve Schoenfelder and A1C Paul Ransom.

MINUTEMAN COMPETITORS ...

According to Col Bill Heske, 90th SMW deputy commander for maintenance, the 90th will field a strong, experienced composite missile maintenance team for OA 79. The selection was tough, but after the volunteers demonstrated their technical prowess under careful scrutiny by an evaluation team from the wing, the 12 "best of the best" were selected.

Three of the four maintenance exercises for OA 79 are new. Last year, the Munitions Team finished a commendable third. This year, the team will be led by SSgt Jim Thomas accompanied by Sgt Tom Williams and SrA Ken Corkill from the 90th FMMS Re-entry Vehicle Branch. All three have a history of outstanding performance under evaluation by the 3901st SMES.



SrA John C. Dhondt and TSgt John S. Cochrane, primary Power Production/Electrical Team for the 90th SMW team, troubleshoot an elevator work cage support structure.

The power production/electrical exercise is new. The team will be led by TSgt "Steve" Cochrane from the QC division, who is no stranger to winning competitions. An expert in facility maintenance and refrigeration, he will now get a chance to prove his ability as an in-shop electrician. His able assistant is SrA John Phondt from FMMS, well known at F. E. Warren for his ability to resolve complicated electrical malfunctions on special purpose vehicles and other support equipment.

The pneudraulics exercise is also new. Sgt Bill Turner from FMMS is the team chief. Sgt Turner will be a fierce competitor at fine tuning shock mounted floors. His partner, AIC Doug Strickland, also from FMMS, is an up and coming first term airman who has demonstrated a lot of poise and confidence on the job. "This team is definitely a sleeper," says Col Heske, "they're full of surprises."

The 90th's Missile Maintenance Team will try an entirely new competition task involving explosive

components installed at missile sites. This team's members represent every wing staff agency that performs, trains or evaluates MMT tasks. The team chief is SSgt Kenny Roberts from the Team Training Branch. Formerly a line team member and later a team chief, he is now an MMT instructor. Two of his teammates are from QC: SSgt Ellis Hire and Sgt Frank Childress. Both have been key contributors to the maintenance mission, and both are outstanding technicians and evaluators. Last, but not least, are two members from the 90th OMMS: AIC Bob Thomas and AIC John "Ski" Zdradzinski."



SrA Angel Rodriguez, A1C William Kight, and TSgt Leigh Tange, A1C Richard Johnson and SSgt Donald Gunsch form the Black Hills Bandits' Missile Maintenance Team. They will remove and install ballistic gas generators and rotary actuator cartridges.

Black Hills Bandits of the 44th Strategic Missile Wing, Ellsworth AFB are also ready for the 12th missile competition at Vandenberg. The Bandits, under the direction of Col Howard R. Tarleton, 44SMW commander, will represent Ellsworth as one of the nine SAC Titan and Minuteman missile wings participating in the contest.

Planning, coordinating and team selection began in the fall of 1978 under the direction of Lt Col Charles Simpson, 44SMW Olympic Arena project officer. Along with project officers for operations, missile maintenance, munitions, security police, communications and civil engineering, Simpson supervised the intensive training that prepared the teams for every possible situation that might be encountered at the competition.

A three-man security police team from the 44th Missile Security Squadron: (from left) A1C David O'Keefe, ART member; SSgt Steven Lente, FSC; and SrA William Welch, ART leader.

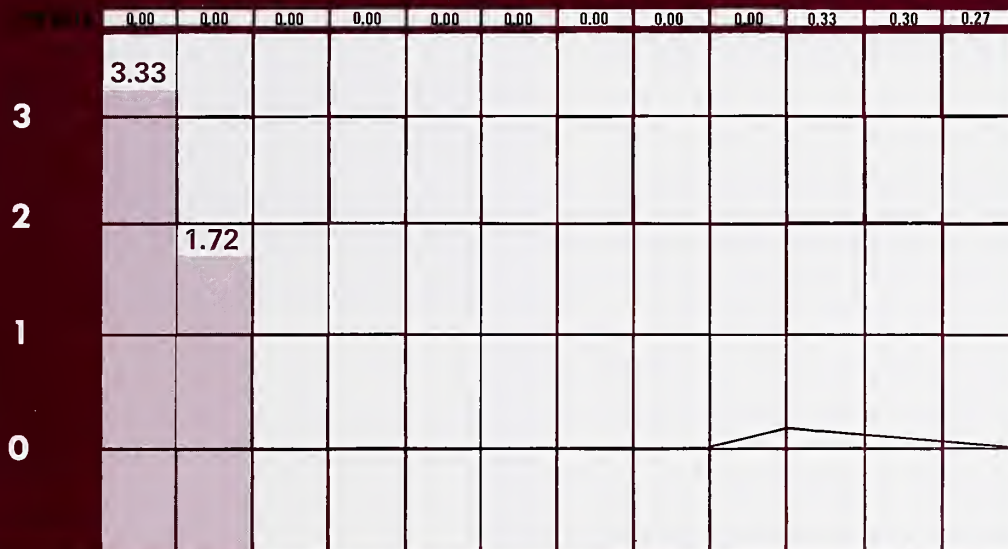




1979 Flying Safety Rate

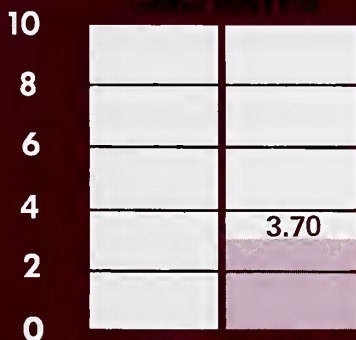
SAC CLASS & MISHAP RATE

(TOTAL YEAR TOTAL BY SAC CLASS)



MISHAPS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1978	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1979	1	0	0									

TYPE MISHAP RATE



MISHAP STATUS

B-52H	JAN 79
-------	--------

MINUTEMAN COMPETITORS...



Black Hills 44th SMW Crew E-057: 2Lt Terrence Craft, DMCCC and 1Lt William Wray, MCCC. Lt Craft's previous Olympic Arena experience will also prove helpful to the Bandits.

Lt Col Lloyd Tilley heads up the Black Hills Bandits Combat Operations Team. Assisting Tilley with the training of the Olympic Arena combat crews were 1Lt Ruben "Bud" Sailor and 2Lt Dave Sharp. Ellsworth's two primary Olympic Arena combat crews are Crew E-057: 1Lt William Wray and 2Lt Terrence Craft, and Crew E-162: 1Lt Francis Riley and 1Lt Stephen Schleif. Lts Craft and Reily each have prior Olympic Arena experience which is valuable in the preparation for Olympic Arena.

The Black Hills Bandits Olympic Arena Missile Maintenance personnel were selected for their sustained superior performance and their ability to produce outstanding results under pressure. MSgt Bill Kelly, maintenance project NCOIC, was responsible for the training of the three maintenance teams competing this year. Elec Team members are SSgt Michael Ewart and A1C Douglas Christenson. Their task is to operate, troubleshoot and repair the elevator work cage used in the missile launch tube.

MMT members are TSgt Leigh Tange, SSgt Donald Gunsch, SrA Angel Rodriguez, A1C Richard Johnson and A1C William Kight. They will be removing and installing ballistic gas generators and rotary actuator cartridges. Pneu team members, SSgt Robert Mooney and A1C Michael Ferguson, will perform an operational checkout of the pipe pusher which opens the launcher closure door at the launch facility during maintenance. The 44SMW maintenance representatives for Olympic Arena have committed themselves to prepare for the competition with only one purpose — to be the best in SAC!

2Lt Guy Ramey of the 28th Munitions Maintenance Squadron is the Munitions Maintenance Team project officer. He's selected his three best men for the task of performing maintenance on the reentry system used on the Minuteman missile. The team, consisting of SSgt John Kuhn, SrA Brian

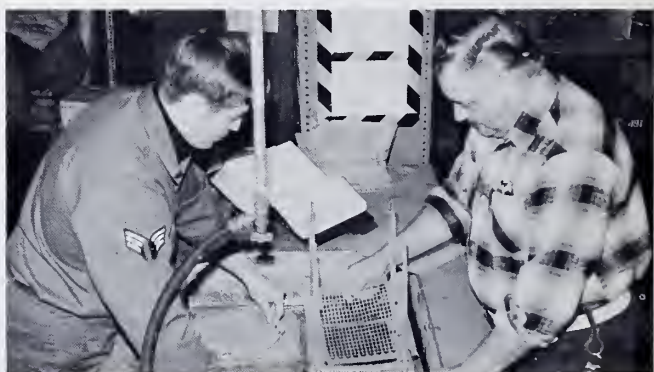


The pneumatics portion of the Missile Maintenance Team of the Black Hills Bandits is A1C Michael Ferguson and SSgt Robert Mooney. Their task is an operational checkout of the pipe pusher which opens the launcher closure door at the launch facility.

McLavery and A1C Charles Young, are determined to do their best in making the Bandits number one.

The 44th Missile Security Squadron is sending three competitors to Olympic Arena. The team project officer, 1Lt Gary Flatt, supervised the training of a flight security controller and a two-man Alarm Response Team. SSgt Steven Lente is the Bandit's FSC, with SrA William Welch as the ART leader and A1C David O'Keefe as the ART member.

The 2148th Communications Squadron is sending a highly dedicated Cable Maintenance Team to this year's competition. The team, supervised by Maj Charles Mosser, will perform an exercise to maintain and repair a straight cable splice case. This year's Communications Team consists of SSgt Robert Frappier and A1C Kenneth Knight.



44th Civil Engineering Squadron members SrA Leonard Robb and Arnold Gust, Environmental Support Team, will troubleshoot, repair and overhaul the electrolysis water unit.

From the 28th Bomb Wing's 28th MMS are A1C Charles Young, SSgt John Kuhn and SrA Brian McLavery. They will perform maintenance on the reentry system used on the Minuteman missile.



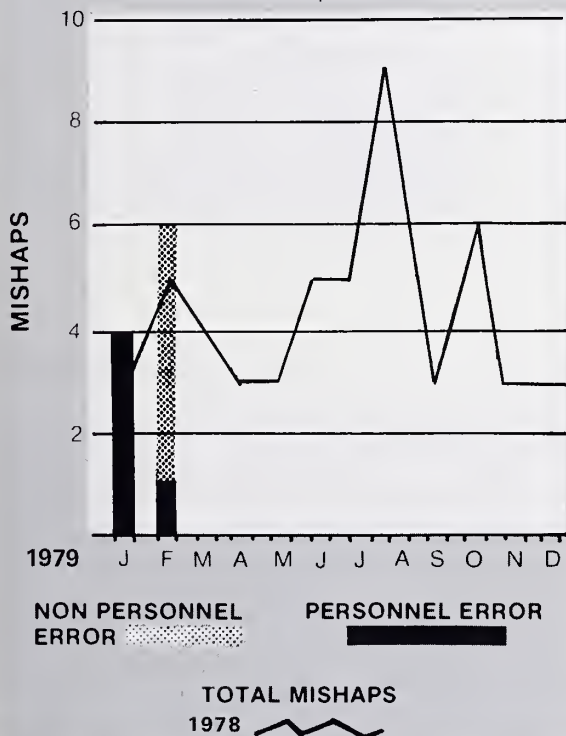
The 44th Civil Engineering Squadron is sending SrA Leonard Robb and Arnold Gust to Olympic Arena 1979. SMSgt Fred Travis, Civil Engineering project NCOIC, supervised the training for this Bandit team. The Environmental Support Team exercise will include troubleshooting, repairing and overhauling the electrolysis water unit.

Skillful, dedicated and ready, the Black Hills Bandits have only one mission — **bring back the Blanchard Trophy.**



Missile Mishap Report

DOD CLASS A, B and C



DROPPED HOISTING ADAPTER. Following removal of the reentry vehicle from the missile, an MMT team prepared to remove the Guidance and Control (G&C) unit. Topside team members were positioning the G&C hoisting adapter with a four-foot extension to the G&C van hoist. This was being done over the open floor plates of the RV van. The extension tangled in the safety barrier ropes and the G&C hoisting adapter slipped from the positive

connection under the safety latch. Falling 20 feet, it landed on top of the G&C unit, bounced near the workage technician, and was caught by him to prevent further damage to the missile.

Missiles at launch facilities have the improved launch control system (ILCS) modification set lower in the silo, necessitating a four-foot extension to the hoisting adapter to facilitate G&C unit removal. Because of this extra length, caution must be exercised when attaching the G&C adapter and extension to the van hoist. A check of the hoist safety latch prior to mating/demating is advised.

TITAN DIESEL GENERATOR FIRE. A Titan complex was operating on stand-by power. The crew noted "Fire in Diesel Area" flashing on the launch control center facilities console. The crew took corrective action in accordance with their fire manual corrective action checklist and switched back to normal power and shut the diesel down. Crewmembers proceeded to the silo to assess the situation. Arriving at the silo equipment area level 3, they saw smoke coming from the diesel generator. There was evidence of a fire in the generator but no flames were visible. Later investigation revealed a fault had developed in the insulation between the phase windings on the bearing end of the generator. The exposed ends of the windings on the bearing end of the generator were burned and melted. The prompt corrective actions taken by the combat crew probably precluded more costly damage to other equipment in the silo area. When well-trained personnel use prescribed procedures, mishaps are prevented and losses from material failures can be minimized.

DROPPED BATTERY CHARGER. A two person electro-mechanical team trouble-shooting a power problem at a launch facility determined that the battery charger needed replacing. The team proceeded to prepare the maintenance equipment trailer electrical hoist for lowering the battery charger. However, the dust cap for the power cable could not be removed. The team then elected to lower by hand the 260-pound battery charger using a one-half inch manila rope. Approximately half way down the personnel access shaft, the rope broke and the charger fell ten feet to the bottom of the shaft. The rope was rated to support over 2500 pounds but did not; an investigation revealed oil and moisture stains which obviously had weakened the fibers. Tech data requires the use of a hoist to raise and lower the battery charger. Additionally, tech data states that a hoist will be used for any load greater than 65 pounds. The team did not notify job control and terminate the task when they encountered problems with the MET hoist; instead, they chose to deviate from established procedures, resulting in the loss of an expensive piece of missile support equipment.

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMERS

Individuals selected for these pages as SAC's top professional performers of the month are chosen from nominations made by all SAC units. Selection is made only after all nominations have been carefully screened and those chosen meet the highest standards of excellence as outlined in SACR 127-2.

TITAN CREW

Crew R-005 served as the senior crew at their assigned complex, and demonstrated outstanding professionalism, managerial abilities and leadership qualities. Their efforts were directly responsible for the complex earning excellent ratings from the SAC IG and the 3901st SMES. Recently, the wing deputy commander for operations and deputy commander for maintenance praised the crew for their "can do attitude" and "totally professional performance" in assisting a maintenance team clean up and repair a serious hydraulic system leak which was preventing a critical propellant tank pressurization operation. Although assigned to B-sector, Crew R-005 recently performed alert duty at a C-sector complex the day before a scheduled activity inspection. Even with extremely heavy maintenance activity that day, the crew's high standards, exceptional initiative and devotion to duty were instrumental in the complex earning many excellent ratings on the indepth technical inspection. Crew R-005 is a highly motivated, dedicated team of professionals. They are the epitome of a SAC missile combat crew.

Crew R-005, 308th Strategic Missile Wing: MCCC Capt Roger L. Spencer; DMCCC 2Lt Robert D. Clark; MSAT SrA Timothy Byrnes; and MFT SrA Robert J. Delgado.



MINUTEMAN CREW

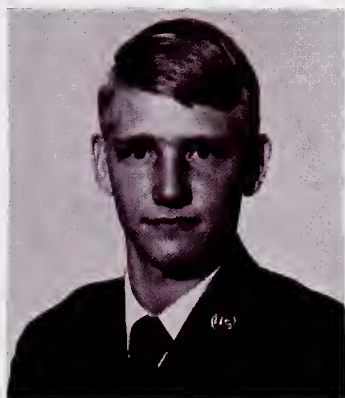
Crew E-092 demonstrated excellent weapons system knowledge and outstanding professionalism in duty performance. During a recent alert tour, their complete understanding of command guidelines and their awareness of flight events resulted in their detection of a subtle situation involving the personnel reliability program. The crew, through astute observation while working with the Flight Security Controller recognized a possible physical impairment and coordinated with the appropriate wing agencies to insure he was relieved of duty. Their prompt action highlighted their professionalism and emphasized their grasp of the numerous responsibilities involved in missile combat crew duty. The duty performance and professionalism of Lieutenants Fowler and Shed exemplify the highest standards of the Strategic Air Command.

Lt James G. Fowler, MCCC, and 2Lt Larry K. Shed, DMCCC, Crew E-092, 351st Strategic Missile Wing.



MAINTENANCE MAN

SSgt Wesley E. Wood, 2d Field Maintenance Squadron, Barksdale AFB, is SAC Maintenance Man of the Month. Sgt Wood earned this award for outstanding technical competence, initiative, and leadership. He is assigned as NCOIC of the wheel and tire section, which has earned outstanding ratings from MSET and the SAC IG team. He demonstrated superior skill when he and a co-worker diagnosed the cause of a repeat malfunction in a B-52G landing gear system. Sgt Wood is a dedicated non-commissioned officer and valuable asset to the SAC maintenance function and the United States Air Force.



SAFETY MAN

SSgt Charles A. Bubier, 42d BMW Ground Safety Technician, has been selected as SAC Safety Man of the month.

SSgt Bubier's constant review of safety directives to insure compliance, his attention to detail, and his outstanding desire and motivation to excel in his performance of safety duties are unsurpassed and leave nothing to be desired. His performance of duty has a direct bearing on the Excellent rating the Ground Safety Branch received during the recent ORI. SSgt Bubier has demonstrated his ability to operate effectively and efficiently without supervision, and is a most dedicated safety technician.



FLYING CREW

Crew R-104, 307 Air Refueling Group, Travis AFB, is named SAC Flying Crew of the Month. Members include Capt Wolfgang E. K. Gesch, pilot; 1Lt Brian M. Barnes, copilot; 1Lt Jay D. D. Kleven, navigator; and MSgt Raymond D. Miller, boom operator.

The crew was performing strip alert at Eielson AFB, when a Navy P-3 Orion ditched in the icy waters west of Shemya, Alaska. An RC-135 performing coordinating rescue operations over the surviving crewmembers of the P-3 was becoming low on fuel. Crew R-104 was directed to start engines and prepare to fly an unplanned mission to a position over Shemya AB where they would coordinate a refueling with the RC-135. After the engines were started and allowed to warm up the crew was unable to get the number three generator tied to the other two due to high voltage, but they were directed by the DCO to launch if the aircraft commander deemed it safe. After analyzing the situation and the importance of the mission, Capt Gesch elected to launch. Enroute to the refueling, Capt Gesh was forced to trip the number three generator off the line. The crew obtained forecast weather for their return and decided they could offload 35,000 pounds of fuel and arrive at their only possible alternate — Fairchild AFB. The crew then coordinated with the RC-135 for a bootleg rendezvous and refueling over Shemya. Later, although he offloaded 35,000 pounds of fuel, Capt Gesch informed the RC-135 that he was prepared to offload more fuel and land in the hazardous runway environment at Shemya AB, if necessary. The RC-135 informed him that the additional fuel was not necessary and Capt Gesch returned to Eielson.

A letter from General Ellis congratulated and personally thanked Crew R-104 for their efforts. "Without the professionalism, dedication, and true humanitarian effort displayed by Capt Gesch and his crew, the rescue of the downed P-3 survivors would have been severely hampered."

HALL OF FAME

TACTICAL FLYING

OVER TWENTY-THREE YEARS

170 AREFG, McGuire (NJANG) NONE

OVER TWENTY-ONE YEARS

171 AREFW, Greater Pittsburgh (PAANG) Mar '58

OVER TWENTY YEARS

157 AREFG, Pease (NHANG) Jun '58

97 BMW, Blytheville Aug '58

OVER NINETEEN YEARS

940 AREFG, Mather (USAFR) May '59

307 AREFG, Travis Sep '59

OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS

19 BMW, Robins Oct '60

151 AREFG, Salt Lake City (UTANG) Feb '61

OVER SEVENTEEN YEARS

161 AREFG, Sky Harbor (AZANG) Apr '61

126 AREFW, Chicago O'Hare (ILANG) Apr '61

134 AREFG, McGhee Tyson (TNANG) Aug '61

340 AREFG, Altus Feb '62

OVER SIXTEEN YEARS

301 AREFW, Rickenbacker Jul '62

96 BMW, Dyess Aug '62

OVER FOURTEEN YEARS

160 AREFG, Rickenbacker (OHANG) Dec '64

OVER THIRTEEN YEARS

320 BMW, Mather Jul '65

OVER TWELVE YEARS

452 AREFW, March (USAFR) Sep '66

92 BMW, Fairchild Feb '67

OVER ELEVEN YEARS

55 SRW, Offutt Jul '67

2 BMW, Barksdale Aug '67

OVER TEN YEARS

5 BMW, Minot Feb '69

OVER NINE YEARS

42 BMW, Loring Sep '69

141 AREFW, Fairchild (WAANG) Oct '69

OVER EIGHT YEARS

28 BMW, Ellsworth May '70

OVER SEVEN YEARS

7 BMW, Carswell Mar '72

101 AREFW, Bangor (MEANG) Mar '72

OVER SIX YEARS

416 BMW, Griffiss May '72

305 AREFW, Grissom Aug '72

376 SW, Kadena Nov '72

OVER FIVE YEARS

379 BMW, Wurtsmith Apr '73

100 AREFW, Beale AFB Feb '74

384 AREFW, McConnell Mar '74

OVER FOUR YEARS

189 AREFG, Little Rock (ARANG) May '74

43 SW, Andersen Dec '74

ICBM

OVER FOURTEEN YEARS

90 SMW, F E Warren Jul '64

1 STRAD, Vandenberg Sep '64

OVER THIRTEEN YEARS

308 SMW, Little Rock Aug '65

OVER EIGHT YEARS

341 SMW, Malmstrom Apr '70

OVER FIVE YEARS

390 SMW, Davis-Monthan Jul '73

OVER FOUR YEARS

351 SMW, Whiteman Oct '74

91 SMW, Minot Nov '74

To gain listing in the Hall of Fame, a SAC or ARF unit must be Class A mishap-free for 48 months.



SAC Safety Screen

The SAC Safety Screen is an honor roll of SAC's most professional crews. To gain listing on the Screen, crew members must be nominated by their unit commanders and meet high selection criteria of experience in their aircraft or missile system IAW SACR 127-2.

380 BMW, Plattsburgh Crew E-11: P Capt Paul E. Murr, RN Lt Brad L. Moffett
380 BMW, Plattsburgh Crew R-110: P Capt James F. Frazer, CP Lt David R. Jackson, N Capt Mary K. Higgins, BO SrA Michael C. Kosloffsky
301 AREFW, Rickenbacker Crew E-104: FP Capt James M. Anderson, CP 1Lt John G. Stevens, IN Capt Paul L. Repak, BO SSgt Dennis M. Brown
301 AREFW, Rickenbacker Crew R-114: FP Maj Charles P. Downer Jr, CP 1Lt Paul E. Turnquist, NN 1Lt Robert E. Bunnell, BO A1C Jimmie L. Coney
384 AREFW, McConnell Crew R-155: P Capt Fred M. Clark, CP Capt Robert T. Deiss, N 1Lt Craig D. Christman, BO SSgt Terry A. Ross
384 AREFW, McConnell Crew E-107: P Capt Albert Anderson, CP Capt Stephen D. MacArthur, CP Capt James E. Wren, N 1Lt Dennis W. DeClue, BO Sgt Danny R. Gilson
305 AREFW, Grissom Crew E-191P: P Capt Daniel B. McMahon, CP Capt James R. Greenwood Jr, N Capt Michael Mosher, BO Sgt John W. Poplett
305 AREFW, Grissom Crew S-101: P Capt Humberto M. Otero, CP Capt Douglas C. McKerracher, N Capt Thomas J. Stilwell, BO MSgt Stanley Graves
2 BMW, Barksdale Crew R-21: P Capt John J. Zielinski, CP 1Lt Anthony A. Imondi, RN Capt Kenneth E. Jones, NN Capt Johnny O. Addison, NE 1Lt Samuel L. Reeves, AG SSgt John E. Crabtree
2 BMW, Barksdale Crew R-107: P Capt Bruce B. McElroy, CP 1Lt John F. Gaughan II, NN 1Lt Alan B. Mastin, BO TSgt Charles H. Heath
320 BMW, Mather Crew E-06: P Capt William R. Toft, CP 1Lt Roy M. Mattson, RN Capt Dennis B. Smith, NN 1Lt Jerry J. Montague, EW Capt Daniel P. Ford, AG Sgt Daniel A. Danish
55 SRW, Offutt Crew S-001: P Maj James E. Chapman, FP Capt John B. Sams, N Maj Jimmy N. Lane, FE MSgt Charles T. Large
96 BMW, Dyess Crew E-112: IP Capt Dennis P. Scasny, CP Capt Michael Mychalishyn, IN Capt David C. Hall, IBO SSgt Eugene A. Schilling
319 BMW, Grand Forks Crew E-11: P Capt Jerry T. Skinner, CP 1Lt Frederick K. Lange, RN Capt Robert G. Beavers, N 1Lt Gordon R. Sidwell, EW Capt Robert F. Henke, AG A1C Ralph G. Woodward
44 SMW, Ellsworth Crew E-80: MCCC Capt Donald R. Fontes, DMCCC 2Lt Bruce M. Wurster
90 SMW, F E Warren Crew S-091: MCCC Maj David W. Vaughn, DMCCC 1Lt Bruce D. Olson
91 SMW, Minot Crew E-105: MCCC 1Lt Dick Baay, DMCCC 2Lt Willie T. Zinnerman
321 SMW, Grand Forks Crew R-106: MCCC 1Lt Richard S. Fuller, DMCCC 2Lt David G. Burnett
341 SMW, Malmstrom Crew E-166: MCCC 1Lt William J. Ward Jr, DMCCC 2Lt Rudy C. Olivarri Jr
381 SMW, McConnell Crew S-200: MCCC Capt Thomas M. Hanson, DMCCC 1Lt Bobby W. Moore, MSAT SSgt Michael B. Hollon, MFT TSgt Kenneth D. Delouche



FLARE

BLANCHARD TROPHY WINNERS

1967 351 SMW, WHITEMAN AFB

1969 321 SMW, GRAND FORKS AFB

1970 44 SMW, ELLSWORTH AFB

1972 351 SMW, WHITEMAN AFB

1972 381 SMW, McCONNELL AFB

1973 90 SMW, F. E. WARREN AFB

1974 321 SMW, GRAND FORKS AFB

1975 381 SMW, McCONNELL AFB

1976 341 SMW, MALMSTROM AFB

1977 351 SMW, WHITEMAN AFB

1978 91 SMW, MINOT AFB